above and below the Prime Lending Rate (PLR) charged by the commercial banks. Subsequently, public sector banks have been advised to reduce their lending rate for the agriculture sector to a single digit of not more than 9% per annum on loans upto a ceiling of Rs. 50,000/-.

Seeds Regulation Act

2092. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that a faulty provision in the Seeds Regulation Act, 1977 has affected the interests of the farmers throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from the farmers to amend the Act suitably; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No such Seeds Regulation Act, 1997 has been enacted.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Agricultural production

2093. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate any policy for increasing the Agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether agricultural produce is being exported/imported;

(d) if so, the item-wise details thereof; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to ban the imports of agricultural products?